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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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INVENTION NAME: APPLICATION NUMBER:

THE WHISTLER'S BEST FRIEND

09/810,773

(a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION. The Whistler's Best Friend.

- (b) CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
 - (1) Provisional utility patent application information: 60/151,941.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT. Research and development for the Whistler's Best Friend was not sponsored in whole or part by any office or any agency of the federal government.
- (d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC or REFERENCE TO A MICROFICHE APPENDIX. Not Applicable.
- (e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention. Steam venting.
 - (2) Description of Related Art.
 - (A) In as much as Cordrey has a similar idea under Patent 409,274, he has changed the configuration of the steam producing pot. He closes off the pouring spout (b), of the vessel and adds a vertical spout (B), for the discharge of steam. Additional, he uses elastic tubing (G), between the pot (F), and receiving vessel (I). In my design, I am making a simple accessory device for use with a common tea pot, which does not necessitate the alteration of the original device.
 - (B) In Weeks' design, Patent 2,553,344, the design is to improve on existing coffee percolation procedure to allow the dispensing of coffee from a vessel separate from the brewing vessel. Additionally, in his grant he states in column 1, line 43, "Heated water is forced through this tube by steam pressure from the dispensing receptacle to the brewing receptacle in which coffee grounds have been previously placed." My utility does not force water through the tube, it simply redirects the normally vented steam through the tube for use in heating or re-heating. His and use of similar terms in description is noted. However, the other possible configuration types and his statement of additional uses are vague, nor does he indicate that he had any notion towards the type of use that my utility is intended.

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- (C) In Di Lascio's Patent 4,502,371, he is providing for delivering coffee infusion as well as steam, via a highly complex device. A switch controls whether the steam produced is directed for coffee infusion or for external usage. Also his device which is self contained must be disassembled prior to and after operation and which requires detailed cleaning of components. My device has 2 pieces, requires no assembly before use or disassembly after use, and is easily cleaned.
- (D) Finally, in Graves Patent 2,424,393, he is using steam pressure created inside a standard pressure cooker to control an electrical switch, which in turn applies or removes electrical current to the heating element. In that the pressure cooker has a pipe vent at the top that communicates with the inside of the pot, there is little semblance between his utility and what I have proposed.